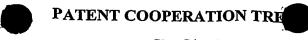
Rec'd PCT/PTO 08-ABB 20050







PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference S.6056 MD/MM	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)		
International application No. PCT/FR2003/050075	International filing date (day/n		Priority date (day/month/year)
PCT/FR2003/050075 02 octobre 2003 (02.10.2003) 10 octobre 2002 (10.10.2002) International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC C02F 3/12, 1/78			
Applicant L'AIR LIQUIDE SOCIETE ANONYME A DIRECTOIRE ET CONSEIL DE SURVEILLANCE POUR L'ETUDE ET L'EXPLOITATION DES PROCEDES GEORGES CLAUDE			
 This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36. 			
2. This REPORT consists of a total of sheets, including this cover sheet.			
This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).			
These annexes consist of a total of sheets.			
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:			
I Basis of the report			
II Priority			
III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability			
IV Lack of unity of invention			
V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;			
VI Certain documents cited			
VII Certain defects in the international application			
VIII Certain observations on the international application:			
Date of submission of the demand		Date of completion of this report	
31 mars 2004 (31.03.2004)		_	tober 2004 (19.10.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP		Authorized officer	
Facsimile No.		Telephone No.	

Form PCT/IPEA/409 (cover sheet) (July 1998)

I. Basis of the report

The basis of international preliminary examination report is the application as originally filed.

V. Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability

In light of the documents cited in the international search report, it is considered that the invention as defined in at least some of the claims does not appear to meet the criteria mentioned in Article 33(1) PCT, i.e. does not appear to be novel and/or to involve an inventive step (see international search report, in particular the documents cited X and/or Y and corresponding claim references).